GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4328
ANSWERED ON:12.12.2016
Online Platform for SEZs
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Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to roll out a web-based platform for Special Economic Zones (SEZs);
(b) if so, the details and the status thereof along with its main objectives;
(c) whether the Government has any plan to deal with the slowdown in investment in SEZs resulting from imposition of Minimum Alternate Tax and if so, the details thereof;
(d) whether the excess capacity of SEZs is likely to be used to perform work for units in Domestic Tariff Area (DTA area outside SEZs) and if so, the details thereof; and
(e) whether there is any proposal to allow exports from SEZs to DTAs at concessional rate and if so, the details and the status thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
(SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

(a) and (b): In order to facilitate paperless transaction for movement of goods for imports and exports from SEZs, a web-based platform - SEZ Online system has already been implemented.

(c): The Special Economic Zones (SEZs) located in the country has seen a slowdown in terms of slower operationalisation of SEZs, increased number of applications for de-notification of SEZs, fewer number of application for setting up of new SEZ, etc. The slowdown is due to a number of reasons including difficult global financial situation, slowdown in exports, withdrawal of exemption from Minimum Alternate Tax (MAT) and Dividend Distribution Tax (DDT) provisions, uncertain fiscal regime for SEZs, etc. In order to boost investment in SEZs, review meetings with the Development Commissioners of SEZs are held regularly. Further, open house meetings with SEZ stakeholders, Road Shows have been organised in various places of the country to give wide publicity of SEZs.

(d) and (e): The various stakeholders of SEZs have represented in this regard. No decision has been taken in this regard.
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